

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-12 and 14-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 6-9 are independent. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION

Applicants are herewith submitting a Terminal Disclaimer disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on the present application which would extend beyond the expiration of U.S. Patent No. 7,249,498 to Miyoshi.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

ALLOWED CLAIMS

Claims 1-3, 5-8 and 16-19 have been allowed. Claim 15 is objected to, and claims 9-12, 14 and 20 would be allowable upon filing of a Terminal Disclaimer. Accordingly, the present application is now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

All the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed and/or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the outstanding rejection and that it be withdrawn, and that this Application be promptly passed to issue.

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

Application No. 10/725,459

Docket No. 0229-0785P

Reply to Office Action of November 30, 2007

Page 3 of 3

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Robert J. Webster, Registration No. 46,472 at (703) 205-8076 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Date: February 29, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By James M. Nutter
Paul C. Lewis, #43,368

#28380

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

PCL/RJW:mmi

Attachment: Terminal Disclaimer